



**European Association of former members of parliament of the member
states of the council of Europe**

The President

**SPEECH BY PRESIDENT NINOS HADJIROUSOS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT FORMER MEMBERS ASSOCIATION AT THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT IN BRUSSELS ON THURSDAY 5 MAY 2011**

Mr. President, Dear Colleagues,

First allow me to thank you for the invitation to attend the General Assembly, and the celebrations for the 10th anniversary of the foundation of FMA.

Thanks for a splendid evening and congratulations to the Organising Committee. Everything was perfect.

Our association with the Euro parliamentarians and our partnership with FMA extends to the full ten years and beyond. Our association was further re-inforced by the membership of FMA in our Association in 2009.

It is therefore a great pleasure to attend and address the General Assembly of FMA in my capacity as President of the European Association of Former Parliamentarians.

It is true that we share the same goals and that it is in our interest to work together. Your Association has made a considerable contribution to our activities and I take this opportunity to thank and congratulate Mrs. Junker for her remarkable job as rapporteur at our latest colloquy.

Her reflections on the important issue of migration in Europe, have been the basis of the Declaration of Kiev which was adopted on 8th October 2010. The recent rebellion in the Arab world and their consequences seem to prove that many of the observations made at our Kiev colloquy were premonitory.

As you know, we organise every year a seminar or a colloquy.

